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CORRESPONDENCE solicited from all quarters. Timely local topics are given the preference. Cultivate brevity, succinctness, and a clear and pointed style. The one side of the sheet only, please, and send real names for the private information of the Editor.

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H. G. OTIS,

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Vol. XVII, No. 63

The ghoulish glee with which

the Express gloats over the fact of its

getting the sad news of the Washington

tragedy 15 hours ahead of its rivals

savors strongly of the Police Gazette.

Our ribald and irreverent Democratic

contemporary daries to poke fun at

such a solemn matter as a two-and-a-

half-column editorial! Veneration is

evidently not found in the Herald's

lexicon.

The excitement in Florida over vast

phosphate discoveries in Marion and

Hernando counties, along the Withla-

cochee River and its tributary lakes

amounts to a craze, quite like the gold

fever of '49.

AFTER dodging the issue for 20 years,

the white people of Alton, Ill., have

been brought face to face with the

question of admitting colored children

to the white schools, and the blacks

scored a victory.

A MOVEMENT has been set on foot

in Omaha for the organization of a

corporation to bid on the Alaska seal

lease. The amount of competition for

this lease seems to bear no sort of

proportion to the extensive talk about

its value.

It would be well for influenza suffer-

ers to go slow in adopting every rem-

edy that is recommended them. A

Cincinnati doctor had his whole right

side paralyzed by a ten-grain dose of

anti-pyrene, which is said to be an or-

inary dose of this powerful drug for

"grip" victims.

MR. A. N. TOWNE, the Southern

Pacific magnate, thinks it certain that

in view of the recent experience of the

Central Pacific in the Sierras, no future

road will enter San Francisco from the

north. This is in accordance with

what we have several times claimed.

It means much for Los Angeles. It

suits us very well, but it will not be

pleasant medicine for San Francisco

to take.

At the meeting of the Board of Su-

perintendents, yesterday, the Retrenchment

Committee, following the example of

the City Council, presented a very sen-

sible report, recommending a reduc-

tion of all salaries of 10 to 12

per cent. This will still leave the

county employes with salaries which

compare very favorably with those

paid by private firms, these times.

THE Southern California Citrus Fair,

a month hence, is now an assured fact.

The money needed has been secured, and

the outside communities, which have

been holding back, have now agreed to

come in. This is well. Let us show the

tenderfoot what a citrus fair really is,

when held in a section where oranges

are grown for the market. The N.C.B.

will please note that, contrary to their

practice up north, this show will be

open to all of the State. Bring on

your oranges! What! Your crop is

all marketed? Ah, yes! That's so.

You had to pick 'em all for the Oro-

ville Fair. So sorry!

THE New York Herald's foreign

countries' editor has been reading THE

TIMES, and has discovered that there

are other wonderful places in the

world besides Central Africa. The

Herald says:

"Think of four pears weighing 20 pounds

and three oranges 21 pounds; a potato

14 pounds long and peaches 12 to 15 inches

in circumference; heads of wheat containing

from 100 to 150 grains and a sheaf of oats

nine feet high; 30 feet of grapevine grown

in one year and a cabbage seven weeks old

measuring six feet across at its top and

containing 14 leaves; a squash weighing 40

pounds, one of 100 being classed as a

middle weight, and a 120-pounder as a

light weight. These, according to the Los

Angeles Times, are specimens of California's

champion products. California is a great

State.

Now that we are discussing methods

of retrenchment, public and private, to

suit the times, we might give some at-

tention to the extravagance of modern

American funerals, which often bank-

rupt the survivors of a poor family. In

Mexico they go to the other extreme.

The corpse is tightly wrapped in cen-

tury-plant matting and placed in a

coffin rent for about 25 cents. One

or two natives, as the case may be,

place the coffin on their heads and go

on a trot to the grave, where the body

is interred and the coffin is then re-

turned. The wealthy class use the

stretcher cars as hearses, and the friends

follow the car on foot.

THE WASHINGTON TRAGEDY.

The awful calamity at Washington,

yesterday, by which Secretary Tracy

lost two members of his family—a

wife and daughter—is one of those in-

scrutable dispensations of Providence,

or Nature, or Fate, which paralyze

comment, and make any expressions of

sympathy appear commonplace, in

view of the poignant sorrow which the

afflicted survivors must feel. If any

moral may be drawn from this sad

event, it is this, that in this age of in-

ventions and luxuries, when almost

every convenience that the mind can

conceive of is at the command of those

who are able and willing to pay there-

for, it is a crying shame that the

flames should still be permitted to

claim their daily holocausts of innocent

victims, in their homes, in hotels, in

theaters, on the rail and at sea. Surely,

while we are devoting time and

millions of money to devices for pro-

longing the life of steel rails, to pre-

venting bridge piles from decaying,

and to saving our forest timber from

destruction, we might afford to spend

a little time and a small portion of our

surplus wealth in trying to prevent, if

only ten per cent, of the number of

awful deaths by fire, which are now an

every-day occurrence.

This sad event, following so closely

on the death of two Mr. Blaine's

children, is another example of the

truth of the old adage that "Misfor-

tures never come alone." The result

will be a very quiet social season at

Washington, for dancing and gaiety in

the presence of such deep sorrow in

the families of two of the President's

advisers would be too much like merry-

making in a graveyard.

THE POSTOFFICE CLERKS' PLEA.

The postoffice clerks of the country

are moving to secure eight hours'

work, a vacation of 30 days each year,

and increased pay. These are things

that employes in many other branches

of business would much like to obtain,

including newspaper men. However,

the postoffice clerks are assuredly a

hard-working, conscientious body of

men. We shall be pleased to see them

attain their object. In order to fur-

ther their claims they have formed a

national association, and will hold a

convention at Washington during the

present session of Congress. The Los

Angeles clerks are moving in the mat-

ter also. Senator Davis has promised

to take particular interest in the mat-

ter.

THE decision in the Toal case ap-

parently knocked out our police courts,

except for strictly municipal purposes.

It shows how easy it is to find flaws in

a city charter, even after the most

careful preparation. Our State law in

regard to municipal charters badly

needs overhauling.

AMUSEMENTS.

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE.—The concluding

performance of the Emma Juch Opera

Company is at night, and this time

with the exception of Carmen, the most

brilliant of the season, from a musical

point of view, which is commonly held

for the role of "Mignon," and interprets it

with a delicacy and refinement which are all

her own. Her singing of the air, "Knowest

thou the Land?" was marked by exquisite

tone and feeling, and the "Swallow Due,"

in the same way, was as charmingly

rendered. Not less telling was her rendering of

the "Zingarella" aria with the beautiful

"Serenade" refrain, one of the most beau-

tiful songs in the whole opera. Taken

altogether, the fair prima donna has shown

to most advantage in the role of "Mignon,"

and in view of which seems best suited to her

sweet, light voice and delicate methods of

interpretation.

As "Lothario," Franz Vetta made a fine

impression with his excellent bass, and showed

himself as a very capable actor. His rendering of

his part was quite difficult.

The opera was advertised as in three acts,

but the second act being divided into two

portions, the audience was disappointed

when the curtain descended upon the

flaming castle, thinking the opera

over, and thus missed some of the best

music.

The company left last night on their

special train and go direct to Portland, Or.,

where they open the new opera-house.

LOS ANGELES THEATRE.—A new com-

pany opened last night in August Daly's

Company at night, and this time

with a large and capable cast. There

was a large audience present, and

the performance gave general satisfaction.

The comedy itself is highly amusing, and

the acting was of a high order. The

company was well received, and the

audience was well pleased. The

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A MONTH'S WEATHER.

Report of the Signal Service for

January.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 3.—[By the Asso-

ciated Press.] The weather summary for

January was issued today by the Signal

Service Office here. The report says:

"The month was in excess of the

RETRENCHMENT.

SUPERVISORS CUTTING DOWN COUNTY EXPENSES.

Salaries Reduced and Several Heads to Be Chopped Off—Full Report of the Retrenchment Committee—A Batch of Important Business Disposed Of.

The Board of Supervisors held an important session yesterday, in which it took up the subject of retrenchment in the county expenses. The matter of formulating a plan of curtailing expenditures was referred to a special committee some weeks ago, and yesterday it reported, reducing the salaries of county officials and lopping off several employes. The report was read and Thursday, at 2 o'clock, was fixed for its consideration. The report of the committee was as follows:

WHEREAS, the last Legislature by an amendment to the code reduced the fees in connection with the County Clerk's office and the fees of the Recorder and Sheriff; and

WHEREAS, the business in the offices of the County Clerk, Recorder and Sheriff has fallen off to such an extent that the fees of said officers do not now pay 40 per cent. of the salaries of the officers and their deputies; and

WHEREAS, the salary fund of the county is made up of bills collected by such officers and the justices of the peace; and

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the board, in consideration of the stringent times, to lift a small portion of the burden of the taxpayers from their shoulders and try to retrench; and

WHEREAS, we believe that the business of the county should be conducted on the same economic plan as a private firm or corporation; therefore we, your Committee on Retrenchment, recommend the adoption of the following resolution: Be it

Resolved, that from and after the 1st day of March the salaries of the following officers be fixed at the respective sums per month as follows:

County auditor, \$250; chief deputy auditor, \$180; one deputy auditor, \$90; county recorder, \$250; deputy recorder, \$180; one deputy recorder, \$90; one deputy recorder, \$75; and, that the floor-walker be dispensed with, and that all copies in the Recorder's office receive 65 cents per folio for all copying; county assessor, \$250; chief deputy assessor, \$180; two deputy assessors (office), \$100; all field deputies, \$100; all other deputies, \$80; assessor's copyists, \$75; county tax collector, \$250; chief deputy tax collector, \$180; two deputy tax collectors, \$100; all extra office deputy tax collectors (when necessary), \$80; chief map maker or draughtsman, \$250; deputy map maker or draughtsman, \$180; assessor's map maker or draughtsman, \$5 per day; assistant map maker in assessor's office, \$75 per month.

And we further recommend that expenses in all departments of the county government be curtailed, and the strictest economy be practiced by each and all of the officers and employes of the county.

And we further recommend that there be immediately appointed a property clerk, who shall have charge of all stationery and other supplies of the county. And it shall be the duty of each and every officer and employe of the county to make requisition upon such property clerk for any and all supplies needed by them, and it shall be the duty of such property clerk to report to this board on the first Monday of every month what supplies have been furnished during the previous month to each and every officer of the county, and we further recommend that the County Clerk dispense with two men. Respectfully submitted,

W. T. MARTIN,
H. C. HENDRICKS,
T. E. BOWAN.

Committee on Retrenchment.

The hearing on the petition of J. S. Langstaffer on the 21st Monte road matter, was set for February 14th.

The territory comprising the Fairmount school district was ordered to be attached to the districts from which it was originally taken.

A petition in regard to water from Los Flores and Rubio Canons was referred to the District Attorney for an opinion.

In the Palmdale irrigation district matter, the affidavits of the publication of election notices were read and the board proceeded to canvass the vote, not entertaining the protests against the canvass. The formation of the district was declared carried and the following officers elected: John Bosch, assessor; John Munns, collector; John Fintel, treasurer; John Martin, director of district No. 1; William H. Cow, director of district No. 3; and Charles W. Dudenhoff, director of district No. 5.

These proposals of Barron & Dunsmore for the construction of the bridge on Pico street was accepted, the price to be paid being \$210.

A warrant for \$200 on the general road fund for work on the Sanford bridge was ordered drawn.

The Auditor was instructed to pay \$673.04 to the Auditor of Orange county, it being due on account.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

Regular Meeting of the Board Last Night.

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held in its rooms at the city hall last evening, with President Pomeroy presiding, and the following members present: Messrs. Cox, Woodbury, Frew, Gosper, Ellis, Powers, McIntosh and Whaling.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved, after which a communication was received from Miss Dunham, a teacher in the High School, advocating a raising of lectures for the purpose of raising a fund for a library for the High School, the course to consist of five lectures, tickets to be sold at \$1 for the course, the same to be under the direction of the board.

Mr. Ellis stated that he believed the plan to be a good one, and moved that the same be adopted, and Miss Dunham be authorized to call on any teachers or members of the board that she may need to assist her.

After a protest from Mr. Whaling, Mr. Ellis's motion was carried by a unanimous vote, with the exception of Mr. Whaling.

The Superintendent's report for the past month was presented by Assistant Baker, in the absence of Mr. Friessner, which was received and placed on file. The report shows the total number of boys enrolled 3379, girls 3372, total 6751. Average daily attendance, 5512. Per cent of attendance, 91. Number of pupils sick, 2390. New pupils enrolled, 297; boys, 145; girls, 152.

Chairman Cox of the Finance Committee reported that the total amount in the school fund on the first of the month was \$78,896, which included the county apportionment of \$48,593. The usual demands were also approved, after which the report of the committee

Edward H. Adams, of Winslow, Lanier & Co., of New York, says: Tourists and others who visit this fascinating region, and are so fortunate as to stop at the Hotel del Coronado, never fail to express their admiration of its perfect management, and the excellence of its water, especially in kidney troubles.

CONSULT Mr. Dr. Wells, the Los Angeles specialist, for female diseases, 408 South Fort.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

tee, as read, was adopted by a unanimous vote, with the exception of Mr. Whaling.

Mr. Gosper, on behalf of the Committee on Buildings and Repairs, made a verbal report, stating that certain extra work had been ordered done on the recommendation of the architect and Building Inspector. This work was outside of the regular contracts, and Building Inspector Muchmore was called in to give the board some information of a technical character. This brought Mr. Whaling to his feet with an objection, in the course of which there was a funny little scene between that gentleman and Mr. Gosper. This was settled, when Mr. Muchmore proceeded with his explanations, after which the matter of the High School and Amelia-street school foundations was taken up, it being stated that a considerable amount of extra work had been made necessary. The committee also suggested the bids be advertised for for the heating and ventilation of the Spring-street school, besides making a number of minor recommendations.

Mr. Whaling called up the matter of the change of the Railroad-street school from its present site to the new location, when it was stated that the Building Committee desired more time.

Mr. Ellis then moved that the report be adopted, and the various recommendations carried into effect, which was carried, besides which the committee was authorized to rent a room in the vicinity of the Spring-street school, in order to make a place for the chemistry class of the High School.

Health Officer MacGowan then made a statement in regard to the heating and ventilation of the Spring-street school, after which an intermission of five minutes was taken to give Mr. Preston, the architect, and Building Inspector Muchmore, an opportunity to explain the matter of the foundations of the High School building.

Councilman Summerland of the Eighth Ward was present in the room, and when the board again came together, a resolution, providing that when the Railroad-street school building is moved, the lot on which it now stands be sold and the proceeds added to the \$1700 saved in the Eighth Ward, and a lot purchased on Magdalena street, and that a four-room building shall be erected in the vicinity of Macy and Date streets.

On motion, the board indorsed the recommendation of the representative from the Eighth Ward.

A communication was received from City Clerk Teed, in regard to the bid of L. M. Stratton for the Amelia-street two-room building, and Councilman Summerland addressed the board, saying that Mr. Stratton had put in a bid for \$4244, but did not include blinds, which he would include for \$4820, which left him the lowest bidder.

By permission, Mr. Stratton was allowed to explain his bid, saying there had been a misunderstanding about the matter. Mr. Walden, the next lowest bidder, also made an explanation, as did Mr. Phelps, who protested against allowing the bidder to raise his bid.

Mr. Woodbury moved that all bids be rejected, and that the Clerk advertise for new bids, which motion was carried, and the checks were ordered returned.

In the matter of the High School foundation, on motion of Mr. Powers, the figures presented by the architect and Building Inspector Muchmore were accepted, and the whole matter was referred to the Committee on Buildings and Repairs, with power to act.

On motion of Mr. Gosper, the clerk of the board was directed to have the necessary water connections made at the new schoolhouses.

Mr. McIntosh explained his vote in the matter of the additional work ordered on schoolhouses, saying he did not believe the board had a right to increase the cost of buildings five or six thousand dollars in excess of the contracts.

Health Officer MacGowan explained that vaccination was not a local matter, but the State Board of Health had ordered that all children should be vaccinated before they are allowed to attend the public schools, and suggested that a fee of 50 cents be allowed physicians for the vaccinations of indigent children, and that the school board should furnish the vaccine matter.

A general discussion followed, in which the State vaccination law was read, when Mr. Powers moved that the doctors named at the last meeting be instructed to vaccinate all children who apply to them, and that the compensation be fixed at 50 cents for each person, the Superintendent to furnish the vaccine matter. The motion failed for want of a second, and the matter was dropped.

Mr. Whaling presented a long resolution in regard to furnishing itemized reports, which failed for want of a second, and after the transaction of some miscellaneous business, Mr. McIntosh moved that a special committee of three be appointed on the laying of the corner-stone of the High School, which will be ready in a week or two. The motion was carried, and Messrs. McIntosh, Gosper and Ellis were appointed as such committee.

Mr. Cox moved that the Supply Committee be instructed to purchase the necessary supplies and apparatus for the chemical class, and that all scholars using the apparatus be required to deposit \$5 to cover the cost of breakage, which motion was carried, after which the board adjourned.

Weak Women

Owe to themselves a duty to take Hood's Sarsaparilla, in view of the great relief it has given those who suffer from ailments peculiar to the sex. By purifying the blood, regulating the important organs, strengthening the nerves, and toning the whole system, it restores the debilitated to health.

After 15 Years.

"For 15 years my mother has been troubled with milk leg. She went to different parts of California, as persons said the climate might help her, but it was of no avail, and I, being a druggist, thought I would get her to try Hood's Sarsaparilla. Before she had taken half a bottle she said she was improving, so she continued until she took half a dozen bottles, and now she is perfectly well. For nearly fifteen years she was unable to walk around, but now she can walk as well as ever." T. F. BLAKE, San Francisco, with C. F. Richards & Co., Wholesale Druggists.

Like a New Creature.

"I have been for years trying to get help for that terrible general debility and weakness so common to women. Within a year I have taken ten or twelve bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla, and I am now feeling like a new creature." Mrs. F. B. Ross, Martin, Texas.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Sold by druggists. \$1; six for \$5. Prepared only by C. I. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass.

100 Doses One Dollar

FOR MEN ONLY

A Positive For General and Nervous Debility. Aches and Pains, Headache, Stomach and all troubles arising from early indiscretions. Robust health fully restored. A sure and safe remedy for all ailments. Sold in a day. Men suffer from 47 states, to restore to 10 cents a week for the same number, according to the sized package used. Address: E. H. MEDICAL CO., RUFFALO, N. Y.

That Decision.

Hundreds of Criminals to be Liberated.

The decision of the Supreme Court in the Tol case, practically declaring the police courts to be illegal, continued the principal topic of conversation in legal and official circles yesterday. Neither Judge Stanton or Judge Owens did any business yesterday, continuing all cases until they could get an official copy of the decision, and decide just how far it went. Both gentlemen said, from the printed reports in the papers, they were convinced that their courts had no legal existence, and if these reports were confirmed officially, they should cease performing the functions of their offices. Justices Austin and Lockwood said that the decision was in line with the position which they had heretofore taken, when the question was first taken up, which was to the effect that the passage of the charter did not confer the right to establish police courts, which, under the Constitution, must be done by special act of the Legislature. Justice Austin stated that the effect of the decision was very far-reaching, and it is estimated that at least 2000 criminals now serving terms of imprisonment will be liberated, as every police court in the State is illegal with the exception of those of San Francisco, San José and Bakersfield, which were created by special legislative enactment.

The effect of the decision will have the effect of throwing all the work now performed by Judges Stanton and Lockwood, who will probably take it up from and after today. In fact, several cases were taken before Justice Austin yesterday afternoon, when new complaints were sworn out, among them being that of Toy Sing, the Chinaman who assaulted the doorman of the Chinese theater, who was put under \$5000 bonds. The lottery cases will also, probably, come before Justice Austin today, when new complaints will be filed against the parties arrested and arraigned before Judges Stanton and Owens.

A SAD CASE.

A Woman Dies Through the Ignorance of a Midwife.

Coroner Meredith held an inquest at Garrett & Sampson's, on Main street, last evening, on the body of a French woman named Leonie Aluset, who died at her home, at No. 122 Aliso street, yesterday morning, under peculiarly distressing circumstances. The woman's husband is an ignorant laborer, and is in very poor circumstances, hardly being able to supply his family with the necessities of life. Yesterday a week ago Mrs. Aluset was taken in labor, and a French midwife named Louise Perret was called in. The poor woman was in great pain, but nothing was done to relieve her. She continued in this state until Friday afternoon, when Dr. Beaundinat was called in. He saw at once that the case was a desperate one, and that unless relief was afforded the woman would die, as she was greatly exhausted. He called in an English physician, Mr. MacGowan, and an examination was made which showed that the case was what is technically known as a "shoulder presentation." Dr. John Haynes was then called in to assist in the operation, and the woman was delivered of a child. Every thing possible was done for the poor creature, but it was too late, and she died yesterday morning of puerperal fever. Dr. Beaundinat reported the case to the Health Officer, who declined to issue a certificate, and, in turn, reported it to Coroner Meredith, who ordered a post mortem, and last evening held an inquest. The husband of the dead woman and several friends were examined, after which the physicians testified as to the result of the autopsy, which clearly demonstrated that death had resulted from criminal negligence. Mrs. Perret was sick, and could not be present at the inquest. After hearing the evidence, the jury returned a verdict that the deceased, Leonie Aluset, aged 27 years, and a native of France, came to her death from unnatural causes, and that the said unnatural causes were superinduced by ignorant treatment on the part of Louise Perret. Coroner Meredith will bring the case to the attention of the District Attorney, and an effort will be made to have the woman prosecuted.

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